

element formed thereon, and the reflective-surface forming surface having a surface that is smaller than the electric-element forming surface.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following inventions are present in the claims:

Group I, Claims 1-17 and 22, drawn to a mirror rocking member for an optical deflector with a reflective-surface forming surface that has an area smaller than an area of an electric-element forming surface, classified in class 359, subclass 224; and

Group II, Claims 18-21 and 23, drawn to a mirror rocking member for an optical deflector with at least one hollow formed inside a movable plate, classified in class 359, subclass 224.

It is the Examiner's position that the inventions listed as Groups I and II are distinct from each other.

The Examiner further argues that the following patentably distinct species are present in the claimed invention of group I:

Species 1, Claims 2 and 3;

Species 2, Claims 4-9;

Species 3, Claims 10-15;

Species 4, Claim 16; and

Species 5, Claim 17.

It is the Examiner's position that the species listed as Species 1-5 are also patentably distinct from each other.

Finally, the Examiner indicates that claims 1 and 22 are generic for the invention of Group I.

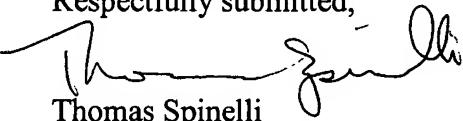
In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group I, Claims 1-17 and 22. In response to the Examiner's requirement for species election, Applicants further elect to prosecute the subject matter of Species 1, Claims 2 and 3, along with generic claims 1 and 22. However, Applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

Lastly, claims 1, 2, and 22 have been amended to clarify the same and to improve their form and readability. No new matter has been introduced into the disclosure in doing so.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures (Version with Markings to Show Changes Made)



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A mirror rocking member for an optical deflector, which comprises the mirror rocking member for deflecting light, and driving means for driving the member, the mirror rocking member comprising:
a movable plate having a reflective surface;
an elastic member for rockably supporting the movable plate; and
a support for supporting the elastic member, the movable plate having an electric element, which constitutes a part of the driving means, the movable plate including a first portion having the reflective surface, and a second portion including an electric element, the first portion having a reflective-surface forming surface with the reflective surface formed thereon, the second portion having an electric-element forming surface with the electric element formed thereon, and the reflective-surface forming surface having [an area] a surface that is smaller than [an area of] the electric-element forming surface.

2. (Amended) The mirror rocking member according to claim 1, wherein the reflective-surface forming surface of the first portion has a shape that is substantially inscribed [with a shape] in that of the electric-surface forming surface of the second portion.

22. (Amended) A mirror rocking member for an optical deflector, which comprises the mirror rocking member for deflecting light, and driving means for driving the member, the mirror rocking member comprising:
a movable plate having a reflective surface;

elastic members for rockably supporting the movable plate; and
a support for supporting the elastic members, the movable plate including a
electric element, which constitutes a part of the driving means, the movable plate including a
first portion having the reflective surface, and a second portion including an electric element,
the first portion having a reflective-surface forming surface with the reflective surface formed
thereon, the second portion having an electric-element forming surface with the electric
element formed thereon, and the reflective-surface forming surface having [an area] a surface
that is smaller than [an area of] the electric-element forming surface.